



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Health Care Quality and Cost Council
Two Boylston Street, 5th floor
Boston, MA 02116**

DEVAL L. PATRICK
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JUDYANN BIGBY, M.D.
Chair

KATHARINE LONDON
Executive Director

**Health Care Quality and Cost Council Meeting
Minutes
June 20, 2007
1-3pm
One Ashburton Place, 21st Floor
Boston, MA 02108**

Attending: JudyAnn Bigby (Chair), Dr. Tom Lee, Greg Sullivan, Chris DeLorey, Joe Lawler, Beth Capstick, Bob Seifert, Charlie Baker, Kevin Beagan, Jim Conway, David Friedman, Ken LaBresh, Dolores Mitchell, Katharine London (ED)

JudyAnn Bigby called the meeting to order.

- I. **Minutes** The minutes from the May 23, 2007 Council meeting were approved unanimously.
- II. **Executive Director's Report.**
Katharine London reported on the hiring of Jackie Dasilva to assist her in the work of the Council. She also recapped the status of budget updates from the House and Senate budgets which were in Conference.
- III. **Health Care Quality and Cost Goals**
The Council discussed the proposed health care quality and cost goals for the Commonwealth. Changes were suggested in several areas including: extending Goal II relative to patient safety and effective care to all settings, not just hospitals and amending Goal V to reflect a desire to reduce disparities in 2008 as opposed to eliminate disparities. The amended goals were adopted unanimously by the Councillors in attendance.
- IV. **Proposal of Regulation 129 CMR 1.00**
Katharine London reported on the work of the subcommittee that assembled the regulations. Some members of the Council expressed concern about the privacy of data and the importance of using a standardized format for collecting information. The proposed regulations were approved unanimously for the public comment period to begin. Katharine London agreed to work on scheduling the necessary hearings and additional meetings required for approval of regulations.
- V. **Communications RFP**
Chris DeLorey presented the revised Request for Proposals for the Communications Subcommittee. The Council discussed the requirements and amended the RFP to include a specific experience requirement individuals or the team leader for the bidder in the area of health care quality and cost measures. After some discussion, the Council approved the RFP and Katharine London agreed to begin scheduling the bidders conference and explained the next steps in the RFP process.

VI. Legislative Discussion

Katharine London led a discussion on sending a letter to the legislative leadership requesting the Council have the ability to report cost data publicly by payer as well as by procedure and provider. Beth Capstick had previously worked on language and agreed to finalize language for the letter request and circulate that request among the Council members for approval. A vote was taken to allow the request to go forward to the Legislature and it passed.

VII. Presentation of Recommended Guiding Principles in Selecting Performance Measures by Dana Safran of BCBS MA.

The Council adjourned to meet next on Wednesday, July 18, 2007.